

[This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application]

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Device for forming a number of thin-walled objects by means of a blow-~~moulding~~molding process from a layer of material which is deformable when heated, comprising:

-a lower ~~mould~~mold with cavities arranged therein, wherein the internal shape of each of the cavities corresponds with the external shape of the objects to be formed;

-means for carrying the layer of material to be ~~moulded~~molded onto the lower ~~mould~~mold;

-supply means for supplying gas to the upper side of the lower ~~mould~~mold;

-heating means for heating the lower ~~mould~~mold; and

-mandrels movable into the cavities,

-wherein the cavities are enclosed by a cavity wall which is divided into segments;

-~~wherein the lower mould is divided into at least three segments placed around each cavity, wherein the separating planes between the segments extend substantially perpendicularly of the upper surface of the lower mould;~~-wherein the segments are movable in substantially radial direction between a first position, in which they form the wall of the cavity enclosed by the segments, and a second position in which an object formed in the cavity can be moved out of the mould, and released;

-~~wherein each of the segments are coupled to a drive element to drive the segments is drivable for movement between the first and second position;~~ by a drive member characterized in that

-~~the movement between the first position and the second position is a linear movement;~~
and

that each of the segments are coupled to a common drive element wherein the drive element is a common drive element coupled to wall segments of adjacent cavities; and the drive element resides at least substantially in a space between the adjacent cavities.

2. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the common drive element is adapted to execute a movement in a direction perpendicular to the direction of movement of the segments, and that the common drive element is connected to the ~~four~~ segments by means of a coupling converting the direction of movement.

3. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the coupling comprises four prismatic pins, each extending at the same angle relative to the direction of movement of the drive element, and ~~that wherein~~ the segments each comprise a channel into which the pins fit and ~~the each channel having an axis of which corresponds with~~corresponding to the axis of the corresponding pins.

4. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the ~~linear drive elements extend~~element extends in the vertical direction.

5. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~further comprising at least one plate forming part of the lower ~~mould is arranged~~mold and connecting onto the segments and ~~that the plate is provided with~~having guide means for guiding the segments when they execute their movement between the first position and the second position.

6. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~further comprising a stamp arranged in each of the cavities ~~is arranged a stamp which~~wherein the stamp is movable in vertical direction to eject the formed objects.

7. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the stamps are coupled ~~for driving to the drive element~~for the segments.

8. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~further

comprising at least one plate forming part of the lower ~~mould is arranged mold and~~ connecting onto the segments and ~~that the plate is provided with~~ having guide means for guiding the segments when they execute their movement between the first position and the second position.

9. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that further~~ comprising at least one plate forming part of the lower ~~mould is arranged mold and~~ connecting onto the segments and ~~that the plate is provided with~~ having guide means for guiding the segments when they execute their movement between the first position and the second position.

10. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that further~~ comprising at least one plate forming part of the lower ~~mould is arranged mold and~~ connecting onto the segments and ~~that the plate is provided with~~ having guide means for guiding the segments when they execute their movement between the first position and the second position.